

WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

Monkfish Research Set-Aside Workshop

Tuesday June 26, 2007

9:30 am - 5:00 pm

*Gulf of Maine Research Institute
Portland, ME*

The New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) will be holding a collaborative workshop to discuss aspects of the Monkfish Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program. This program is carried out through the cooperation of both the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils, who have joint management authority over the monkfish fishery, and NOAA Fisheries Service. This RSA program sets aside 500 monkfish days-at-sea (DAS) from the directed monkfish fishery to be used for monkfish related research endeavors, thereby providing a mechanism to fund such research activities and compensate vessels through revenues generated from monkfish harvested during research set-aside DAS.

The purpose of this Monkfish RSA Workshop is to facilitate discussion among potential RSA applicants (including scientists and vessel owners), NOAA Grant personnel, and fishery regulators concerning how to develop successful research proposals under the 2008 Monkfish RSA Program. Presentations concerning the NOAA Grants application process and the Federal fisheries permitting process, as they relate to the Monkfish RSA Program, will be given. In addition, lessons learned from the 2006 and 2007 Monkfish RSA Programs will be discussed and public input received concerning ways in which the program could be improved.

NOAA Fisheries Service plans to publish the Federal Funding Opportunity announcement for the 2008 Monkfish RSA Program in June 2007. Once published, this announcement may be obtained by visiting the NOAA Grants On-line website at <http://www.grants.gov> and conducting a "Grant Search" under the keyword "monkfish."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Allison McHale, Fishery Policy Analyst, NOAA Fisheries Service, (979) 281-9103, e-mail: Allison.McHale@noaa.gov; or Phil Haring, Senior Fishery Analyst, NEFMC, (978) 465-0492, email: pharing@nefmc.org.

HOTEL INFORMATION: A block of 20 rooms has been held at the Holiday Inn by the Bay for the evening of June 25th. The special room rate is \$90. Please call (207) 775-2311 **by Friday, June 8th** and request to reserve a room under the GMRI (Gulf of Maine Research Institute) block.



Directions to the Gulf of Maine Research Institute

From the South

1. Take I-95 North to exit 44 (I-295N toward S. Portland, Portland)
2. Take exit 4 off of I-295 (U.S. Rte 1 toward Portland/Waterfront)
3. At light, turn Right onto U.S. 1A / West Commercial St.
4. Continue down Commercial Street, pass under Casco Bay Bridge and go past the International Ferry Terminal.
5. GMRI is located at 350 Commercial Street. Parking is provided to the right of the building.

From the North

1. South on I-95 (Maine Turnpike) to I-295.
2. In the Falmouth area, stay south onto I-295.
3. Continue on I-295 to exit 7 - (Franklin Arterial).
4. Take exit 7 onto Franklin Arterial.
5. Drive the length of Franklin Arterial to the end (the Casco Bay Ferry Terminal will be directly in front of you).
6. Take a right onto Commercial Street and proceed down Commercial Street through 2 traffic lights.
7. GMRI is located at 350 Commercial Street. Parking is provided to the right of the building.

